

Image

Attorney Docket: 381NP.50961  
PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MITSUTOSHI ABE ET AL  
Serial No.: 10/084,473                      Group Art Unit: 2834 ✓  
Filed: FEBRUARY 28, 2002              Examiner: J. JONES  
Title: ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT FOR MOUNTING ON VEHICLES,  
ELECTRICAL MACHINES, AND MANUFACTURING  
METHODS OF THE SAME

REPLY

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on or about October 7, 2003, applicants provisionally elect with traverse Claims 1-7 and 24-29 (I).

Reconsideration of the restriction requirement is requested on grounds that the Patent and Trademark Office has not made a *prima facie* case of independence and/or distinctness sufficient to satisfy 35 USC § 121 and MPEP § 806.05(f). In particular, the general statement that the process of Claims 18-23 and 30-35 can be used to a corrosion-resistant metal “to be used for something other than electrical equipment” does not set forth a “materially” different process sufficient to satisfy the statutory requirement as well as the PTO’s own rules. Moreover, mere separate status in the art is not a basis, in and of itself, to require restriction.

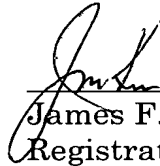
Accordingly, reconsideration and action on all the claims in this case are earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381NP/50961).

Respectfully submitted,

November 7, 2003

  
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